

KWYN PAVEY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kwyn Pavey who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kwyn Pavey is a senior at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kwyn Pavey is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kwyn Pavey for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

THE REINTRODUCTION OF RECOMMITMENT TO INTERNATIONAL HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise to reintroduce my resolution urging the United States to ratify and implement certain fundamental international conventions.

This resolution is supported by a variety of organizations including Free the Slaves, Human Rights Watch, AFL-CIO, Amnesty International USA, Global Rights, Citizens for Global Solutions, Oxfam America, the National Alliance of HUD Tenants, the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, and the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Justice and Human Rights.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the UN Declaration on Universal Rights. It is the foundation of the current human rights movement. Americans, led by First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, helped craft this historic convention, and next week, the United States will again seek a seat on the United Nations Human Rights Council.

Last week, I joined my colleagues to protest the genocide in Darfur at the Sudanese Embassy in Washington, D.C. Three years ago, many of us were arrested doing the same thing; three years later, millions continue to suffer.

Our case against this and other humanitarian crises would be so much stronger if the United States had ratified the U.N. Conventions that address the rights of women, children, and forced disappearance. How can we ask for our global trading partners to respect international labor standards, when we ourselves have not ratified ILO standards on the right to organize and bargain collectively, or against forced child labor, or age discrimination? How can we fight poverty and homeless-

ness if we do not support UN Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights? How can we stand up for civil rights when we do not support hemispheric efforts to recognize historic struggles of marginalized communities?

Our country was founded on the principles of civil and human rights. Many, many people—men, women, and even children—have sacrificed their lives for the freedoms we enjoy today. Madam Speaker, this is a time of war. This is a time when the global economy is struggling. This is a time when access to food, water, shelter, and resources impacts every person on this planet. It is during periods like these when it is most important to protect our values and our commitment to universal human and civil rights.

Simply said, this resolution is our recommitment to our own American principles and to our neighbors and friends around the world. We must always be vigilant. We must be vocal. But we must remember—actions speak louder than words.

LEAH M. VARNELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Leah M. Varnell who has received the Golden Ethics in Business award. Leah Varnell is the executive director of Court Appointed Special Advocates of Jefferson and Gilpin Counties and received this award because of her vision, bravery, and sense of social responsibility to those children who face the worst of all situations.

The dedication demonstrated by Leah Varnell directly benefits her community, and is exemplary of high personal and professional standards. She serves as a leader who inspires those around her to continually strive for a safer environment for America's children.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Leah Varnell for winning the Golden Ethics in Business award. I have no doubt she will continue to exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her career to all future undertakings.

INTRODUCING THE FAIR TREATMENT FOR METAL IMPLANTEES ACT

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, today I would like to introduce the "Fair Treatment for Metal Implants Act", which creates a program within the Department of Homeland Security that incorporates biometric technology or other applicable technologies to verify the identity of an individual who has a metal implant, so as to limit disruptions for such individuals while traveling by air transportation, in a manner consistent with aviation security.

According to the Joint Implant Surgery & Research Foundation, there are approximately 500,000 total hip and knee replacements per-

formed in the United States each year. An estimated 11 million people in the United States have a medical implant and this number is growing as the population receiving implants increases.

In a 2007 study, researchers at the Harvard Medical School found that 100 percent of hip replacements and 90 percent of knee replacements cause commercial airport metal detectors to alert. Whenever a passenger alarms the walk-through metal detector, additional screening must be conducted to locate and resolve the source of hand-held metal detector and, first, conducts a pat-down inspection of any area that alarms; then conducts a whole-body pat-down. This additional screening consumes an average five minutes more of a passenger's time at security checkpoints.

This excess screening of metal implantees is not an efficient use of a TSO's time, which could be more efficiently used elsewhere. H.R. _____ would develop a travel credential or system that incorporates biometric or other applicable technologies to verify the identity of an individual who has a metal implant to ensure that such individuals can travel by air with greater ease, consistent with current security regulations. The bill would require the program to include verification of the individual with a metal implant, resolution for false matches and non-matches, determination of travel credential or system, and validation of a credential or system issued to an individual under the program that is lost, stolen, or no longer authorized for use.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank the Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, Mr. Thompson, for introducing this legislation with me. H.R. _____, the "Fair Treatment for Metal Implants Act", will direct more resources to secure our skies and help metal implantees negotiate through airport security.

KRISTIAN YEAGER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kristian Yeager who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kristian Yeager is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kristian Yeager is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kristian Yeager for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.